

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 36 with the following:

A Still referring to Figure 7, as a second step, S2 is connected into the main loop and the monitoring point for the RDU is moved to PCC1. Accordingly, PCC1 is placed into state 20 (described above), as indicated by curved lines 180 within PCC1, while PCC2 is placed into state 19, as indicated by curved lines 182, in which DI₂ is connected to PO₂ and PI₂ is connected to LO₂ as well as to DO₂. With this arrangement, the RDU can transmit a Loop Initialization Primitive (LIP) to S2 via a segment 183 of the diagnostics loop and PCC2. PCC2 (assuming proper S2 operation) receives a response LIP back from S2 and places it onto a main loop segment 184 on which the LIP travels to PCC1. At the latter, the LIP is routed through S1 and then onto DO₁ to travel back to the RDU on a segment 186 of the diagnostics loop. In this way, it can be verified by the RDU that the LIP transmitted into S2 is received at S1. Having verified that the LIP has successfully traveled through all of the stations on the loop, the RDU may allow completion of the S2 port insert. In this regard, it should be appreciated that counter-rotation of the diagnostics loop in relation to the main loop is advantageous. As one advantage, this counter-rotation allows the port undergoing an insert to first receive the LIP from the RDU in a manner that is consistent with intuition. Thereafter, the LIP travels through all of the remaining stations on the loop. As another advantage, it is submitted that the counter-rotating diagnostic loop allows insertion of ports according to Fibre Channel loop protocol and that, without this feature, the port insert could be non-compliant. Moreover, if the diagnostics and main loops rotate in the same relative direction and the port to be inserted first receives the LIP (not shown), a segment conflict occurs on the diagnostics loop, which has not been illustrated for purposes of brevity, but which is readily demonstrable by one of ordinary skill in the art in view of this disclosure.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 35 with the following:

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Still referring to Figure 13, one feature present in the port detail view is a GBIC display box 244. It is noted that GBICs have some built in identification information. This information is extracted for display here. The information identifies the specific type of GBIC. For example, a shortwave laser GBIC (as shown), a longwave laser GBIC or a copper GBIC with a High Speed Serial Data Connector (HSSDC). A state indication 245 within GBIC display box 244 is obtained from both the GBIC and the diagnostic circuitry that is monitoring the port, as described above. A "No Valid Data" indication is illustrated. In this way, it is determined if there is a valid signal and whether or not the node is transmitting valid Fibre Channel characters. A port connect box 246 includes a state indication 248 that is produced by the present invention. While action can be initiated based on no valid data, the present invention further provides for bypassing a node that is in a loop failure state or transmitting LIP F8. For example, if a device is "LIP F8ing", port connect state box 248 will reflect that condition (not shown). Alternatively, if there is a problem with the transmitter on the GBIC itself, it will be indicated.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 13 with the following:

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This view will show all the hubs in a selected stack but will not necessarily reflect the physical ordering of the hubs. This logical stack configuration will show any cascaded hubs and their associated ports within the stack. Cascading of the hubs allows multiple hubs access to the same loop and within a stack of hubs, it is possible to have one or more loops configured in the stack. Each port on a hub can be attached to a node, a loop of nodes such as a Just a Bunch of Disks (JBOD), or an unmanaged hub.